

EXHIBIT 5  
DATE 3/15/2011  
HB 607

House Bill 607  
March 15, 2011  
Presented by Joe Maurier  
House Fish, Wildlife and Parks Committee

Mr. Chairman and committee members, I am Joe Maurier, Director of Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP). I am here in support of House Bill 607.

Currently nonresidents who are unsuccessful in drawing an elk permit may return the whole license by August 1 for an 80% refund or keep a license and not use the elk portion. HB607 would allow nonresidents unsuccessful in drawing an elk permit the ability to keep a B-11 Deer combination license and return the Elk license for a refund. The Department could then issue the returned elk license to a new hunter as a Class B-10 Elk combination license.

With the pool of nonresident hunters being actively marketed by other western states, HB607 would provide customer service and limited additional hunting opportunity for nonresident hunters. In the Fiscal Note the Department estimated 329 individuals would take advantage of this option and provide \$135,548 annually.

I request a "do pass".

Thank you.